GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:30
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2007
VOTERS IDENTITY CARD
Ramadass Prof. M;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Voter`s Identity Cards issued by the Government in various States as on date, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of electorate provided with Identity Cards by the Election Commission so far, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the total cost incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which all the voters are likely to be provided with such identity cards?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) and (b): A Statement showing the status of number of electors issued with Voter Identity Cards and also the percentage of electors provided with the Identity Cards, as intimated by the Election Commission of India is laid on the Table of the House.

(c): The Government of India has provisionally released a sum of Rs. 656,66,92,000/- from the financial years 1994-95 to 2007-08 to State/Union territory Governments as its share of the expenditure incurred towards `Issuance of Photo Identity Cards to Voters`.

(d): The Election Commission of India has intimated that it has been the endeavour of the Commission to achieve 100% coverage under the Elector Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) scheme, and even though the efforts have been constantly made to cover all the electors under the EPIC scheme, various reasons such as natural calamities, engagement of administrative machinery, which also attend to works other than election work, apathy of voters themselves are some of the reasons why progress has been uneven.